

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

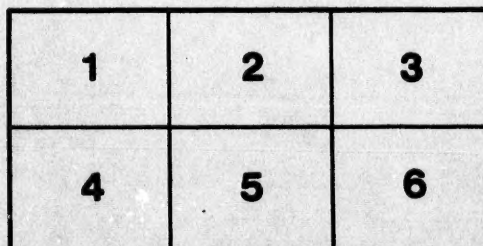
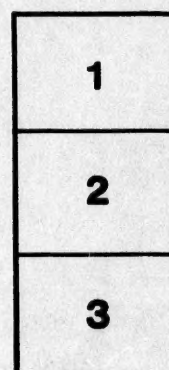
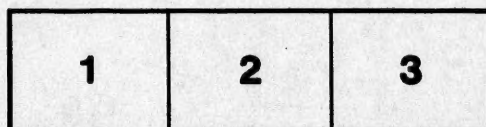
Metropolitan Toronto Library
Canadian History Department

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol → (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ▼ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

Metropolitan Toronto Library
Canadian History Department

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole → signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ▼ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

YORK TOWN MEETING—ADDRESS TO HIS MAJESTY.

Mr. MACKENZIE, read, and submitted to the meeting for its adoption the draft of a petition and address to the King; which motion having been seconded by Dr. Morrison, the question was put to the meeting by the Town Clerk.

The Humble Petition and Address of the People of York, agreed upon at a Township Meeting duly convened by the Town Clerk, and held in the public Market Square, on Saturday the sixteenth day of July, 1831.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

SIRE :

We humbly desire on the present auspicious occasion, to offer to Your Majesty our grateful acknowledgments for having listened with sentiments of paternal tenderness to the earnest prayers of our fellow subjects in the United Kingdom for a restoration of their just and salutary influence in the constitution of these realms; and we entertain the cheering and ennobling hope that by means of the truly great and magnanimous efforts made by Your Majesty on behalf of your loyal people, their freedom and happiness will be secured, discontent allayed, and the honour and dignity of your imperial crown upheld and maintained.

We deem it a duty we owe to Your Majesty, to our names and to our fellow subjects, to lay a brief statement of our complaints at the foot of Your Majesty's throne, and earnestly to request that Your Majesty, in Council, would cause a strict enquiry to be made without delay into the administration of the government of this province : so that, forming an integral portion of the British empire, we may at length fully share in its equal and exalted justice.

But we would humbly yet earnestly represent to your majesty, that the *Constitution* thus settled, and our just title to the rights and benefits of which is recognized, "and guaranteed to us by the supreme authority of a powerful and generous nation, under the auspices of its most illustrious citizens," has been acknowledged in theory, but, in a great degree denied in practice; for there is not now, neither has there ever been in this province, any real constitutional check upon the natural disposition of men in the possession of power, to promote their own partial views and interests at the expense of the interests of the great body of the people.

Hence, immense tracts of waste lands, vested in the crown for the benefit of actual settlers, in this colony, were granted to individuals who kept them from actual settlers in the expectation of realizing fortunes out of them.

Hence the sale of those lands to the Canada Company, founded upon the principle that a revenue was to be derived from the labours of the first settlers in a wilderness, for the advantage of persons resident in England, and in order to afford incomes to public functionaries, pensioners and favourites here, over the amount and continuance of which the people or the representatives they might select could exercise no control.

Hence high salaries, over numerous offices, pensions and perquisites for many persons living on the industry of this young colony

Hence too, the attempts to maintain and support these, separate interests and undue individual advantages, comes from the colonial government to particular religions, preferences in provision for the support of the churches in the direction of education and schools, preference to offices of trust, honor and profit, and pre-ferential treatment of individuals who will give their support to this exclusive anti-British system.

Hence, perhaps, also, the very expensive and at the same time inefficient system for the administration of justice, its great drawback being the want of confidence which the people of this colony have expressed in its dispensation.

We most humbly suggest to Your Majesty, that the adoption of the following propositions as the rule of law in Upper Canada is essentially necessary to its freedom and happiness as an intion of the empire; and we earnestly beseech Your Majesty to direct Your Ministers to give the measures we have suggested hearty and efficient support:

5. That the control over all statute labour, and over all other labour, except agricultural labour, engaged or bonded by a

7. That a less expensive and more prompt and efficient established for the free and equal administration of justice matters of small amount and difficulty may be disposed of much regard to the legal rights of the parties as matters

9. That none of Your Majesty's Judges, nor Clergy, of any denomination, be enabled to hold seats either in the executive or legislative councils, or in any way to interfere and conceal themselves in the executive or legislative business of the province.

We humbly pray Your Majesty to disallow, annul and
a bill passed in the last session of the parliament of this
entitled "an act to repeal an act passed in the fifth sess
sixth parliament of this Province, entitled 'an act for

We would also humbly intreat Your Majesty's protection the passage of laws in the United Kingdom Parliament, (I have no agent legally elected by us of our free choice, to advise us for our interest,) effecting sudden changes in our

We are desirous that the East India Company may not
renewal of their charter in such form as would secure to
further monopoly of the tea trade of this country.

100

The Committee reported a draft of a Petition to the House of Assembly, in compliance with the terms of the fifth section of the first resolution of the Town Meeting, which was signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and is as follows:

TO THE HONORABLE THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The humble Petition of the people of York, unanimously agreed upon at a Township meeting, duly convened by the Town Clerk, and held in the public Market Square, at noon, on Saturday the sixteenth day of July, 1831.—

SARWETH.

That Your Petitioners feel deeply aggrieved by the passage of Laws in the United Kingdom Parliament, (where they have no agent locally elected by them of their free choice, to act and advise them for their interests,) effecting sudden changes in their commercial relations with Great Britain and with foreign countries; changes by which the capitals of their merchants and manufacturers are in danger of being sacrificed, and their Trade, Commerce, and Agriculture (discouraged) and they especially remonstrate against the passing by that Parliament of acts interfering or assuming to interfere with their internal affairs, over which it has constitutionally no legislative power whatsoever.

That Your Petitioners are desirous that the East India Company may not obtain the renewal of their charter in such form as would secure to them a further monopoly of the Tea Trade of this colony.

Your Petitioners humbly pray your Honorable House, that the qualified electors of this colony may hereforward be fairly and equally represented in the House of Assembly.

That the undue preference and exclusive privileges and immunities allowed and extended by the Colonial Government to certain religious sects or denominations, be abolished.

That the Crown and Clergy Reserves, and all reservations of land, otherwise than for the purposes of Education and Roads, be abolished.

That the Land Granting Department, and the sale and disposal of all lands and other public property, be regulated for the future only by law.

That the people may by their Representatives have the control of all monies whatsoever coming into the hands of the Government, whether arising from taxes, duties, or crown lands.

That the control over all estate labor, and over all other local assessments, taxes, rates, and imposts, raised or levied in the towns, townships, counties, and districts of this Province, be placed in the qualified electors at their town meetings; or in commissioners duly authorized by the said electors, when for district purposes.

That the public debt of the province may not be augmented for any purpose whatsoever, unless the project voted first submitted to the people for their approbation; and that the practice of economy and retrenchment in every branch of the public expenditure be carefully enforced, so that the debt already contracted, and the cost of any new accumulating thereon may speedily be liquidated, and the surplus revenues of the colony prudently applied to purposes of general utility.

That the Stockholders of the Bank of Upper Canada may not continue to enjoy a monopoly of the whole Banking of the Province; but, that, under judicious regulations, Banks may be established in other sections of the colony.

That a Bill passed in the last Session of the Parliament of this Province, entitled, "An Act to repeal an Act passed in the fifth Session of the sixth Parliament of this Province, entitled, 'An Act for granting to His Majesty a sum of money towards defraying the expenses of the Civil Administration of the Government of this Province,' and for granting to His Majesty a certain sum of money to be applied towards the payment of the expenses of the Administration of Justice and the support of the Civil Government of this Province;" be also another Bill passed in the said last Session, entitled, "An Act for vesting in Trustees the Market Square in the Town of York, for the benefit of the inhabitants of the said Town," be repealed.

That a less expensive and more prompt and efficient system be established for the free and equal Administration of Justice; that matters of small amount and difficulty may be disposed of with much regard to the legal rights of the parties as matters of greater amount and difficulty, but at less expense; and that no fees be exacted, the tariff of which is not established by an Act of the Provincial Legislature.

That the real estate of persons dying intestate may not descend to the eldest son, to the exclusion of his brethren, but be equally divided among the children, male and female.

That the right of impeachment and the mode of trial be fully and effectually recognized and established.

That none of His Majesty's Judges nor Clergymen of any denomination, be enabled to hold seats either in the Executive or Legislative Councils, or in any way to interfere and concern themselves in the Executive or Legislative business of the Province.

That the Executive Council of this Colony may be composed of those persons only who possess the confidence of the people.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed.) JOSHUA VAN ALLEN, Chairman.

(Signed.) JAMES DOYLE, Secretary.

[The two following (concluding) clauses were added by vote of the Town meeting of Whitby.]

That in elections of members to serve in Parliament for any county in this Province, in which a poll shall be demanded, the votes of the freeholders may be taken at two, three, or more fixed places or stations, the most central and convenient for the electors to assemble at, and the poll kept open by the Returning Officer at each of these places for a period sufficient to enable them to have their suffrages recorded, unless the election should be otherwise sooner determined; or, that the Township Officers may be authorized to take the votes of the electors in their several Townships.

That Juries be drawn by lot from lists of the best qualified persons in the several Towns and Townships, or appointed in some other mode less liable to partiality and abuse than an arbitrary selection of them by Sheriffs or Coroners, dependant for their appointment, income, and continuance in office, upon the will of the Executive Government.

The above proceedings of the people of York, were concurred in, on Monday the 18th July, by the unanimous vote of the town meeting of Etobicoke, and Messrs. John Nicol, John Macfarlane, and Amasa Wilcox appointed a committee of management to co-operate with the Provincial committee sitting at York. Attested by Truman Wilcox, Town Clerk, Etobicoke.

Concurred in also by the unanimous vote of Pickering, on Wednesday the 20th July, and Messrs. Joseph Wixson, William Hartwick, Benjamin Varnum, Andrew Halbard, David Gardener, Edward Lawrence, and Benjamin Lock, appointed a committee of co-operation in that township. Attested by Joseph Wixson, Chairman, Town Meeting.

And by the unanimous vote of Scarboro', on Tuesday the 19th July, and Messrs. Peter Secor, William Devonish, Thomas Whitesides, Christopher Thomson, and Samuel Kennedy appointed a township committee of co-operation. Attested by William Devonish, Town Clerk, Scarboro'.

And by the unanimous vote of Whitby, one dissenting voice excepted, on Thursday the 21st July, and Messrs. William F. Moore, James Hall, John Still, James Hunter,

& Fara Annes, appointed a committee.

Attested by William F. Moore, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of Reach & day the 22nd July, and Messrs. Joseph P. Plank, Carleton Lynde, Robert Day Taylor appointed a co-operating committee.

By the unanimous vote of Markham, 23rd July, and Messrs. Peter Rescor, J. Abraham Rescor, Justin Badgerow, and pointed a co-operating committee.

Wurts, Chairman, Town Meeting.

By the unanimous vote of Whitehurst, 25th July, and Messrs. John Bogart, sen'r, Timothy Millard, Daniel T. E. Clubine appointed a committee of co-operation.

By the unanimous vote of East Gwill day the 26th July, and Messrs. Silas Fletcher, John Lewis, John Reid, Samuel H. cher, and Lewis Powell appointed a com mittee.

Attested by John Weddel, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of Bruch, on 1 July, and Messrs. Joel Wixson, Webster Vrooman, Archibald McPhaden, and Re pointed a committee of co-operation.

Wixson, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of North Guel day the 29th July, and Messrs. David S. Comor, Noah Gager, Isaac Bennett, and don appointed a committee of co-operati David Sprague, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of Tecumseth bury, and Adjala, County of Simcoe, 30th July, and Messrs. Robert Armstrong and Nathaniel Gager all of West Gwilli Walker and William McCarty, Tecumset ton of Adjala, and William Lawrie of In a committee of co-operation. Attested strong, J. P. Chairman.

By the unanimous vote of King, on August, and Messrs. Jesse Lloyd, Jacob William Haines, sen'r, William Kenned Learmont, William Haines, jun'r, and appointed a committee of co-operation William Haines, sen'r, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of Albion, on August, and Messrs. John Jaffary, James Finch, Frederick Baker, and John Smi committee of co-operation. Attested by Chairman, Town Meeting.

By the unanimous vote of Caledon, on 3rd August, and Messrs. William Clark, D ric, Archibald Macnaghon, George Mid Judge appointed a committee of co-oper by Miles Bacon, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of Chingawacouy, 4th August, and Messrs. William Johnston bury, John Wolfe, Joseph Lollar, and J pointed a committee of co-operation. Wm. Johnston, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of Vaughan, on August, and Messrs. Peter Frank, Michael John Clark, Archibald MacDonald, and son, appointed a committee of co-operation. Peter Frank, Chairman Town Meeting.

By the unanimous vote of Toronto, on 6th August, and Messrs. Charles King, McElrie, William B. Revo, Abijah Levis zer, Wesley Watson, and William Dought committee of co-operation. Attested by with Revo, Town Clerk.

ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

The two following additional resolutions were township of Whitby, on Thursday the 21st therefor concurred in by the townships of M church, East Gwillimbury, Brock, Reach and

Albion, Caledon, Chingawacouy, North Gwilli and Toronto; and clauses furnished upon their petition to the House of Assembly adopted in

RESOLUTIONS.

I.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of that the present mode of electing our tives in Assembly, subjects us to gro necessary inconvenience, inasmuch t votes might be polled in our own T one of our Township Officers annu our January Town Meeting, we an travel to a place beyond York, a dista to 40 miles, to give in our votes; an ten at the busiest season of the year f If it were impossible to make our suffr Whitby we would cheerfully come to evident from the election laws of Lo Nova-Scotia, and New Brunswick, th and more judicious law for the regul

& Ezra Annes, appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by William F. Moore, Town Clerk, Whitty.

By the unanimous vote of *Reach & Uzbridge*, on Friday the 22nd July, and Messrs. Joseph B. Pearson, John P. Plank, Carleton Lynde, Robert Dayton, and Joseph Taylor appointed a co-operating committee. Attested by Joseph B. Pearson, Chairman, Town Meeting.

By the unanimous vote of *Marikhan*, on Saturday the 23rd July, and Messrs. Peter Reesor, Joseph Tomlinson, Abraham Reesor, Justin Badgerow, and David Byer appointed a co-operating committee. Attested by John Wurtz, Chairman, Town Meeting.

By the unanimous vote of *Whitchurch*, on Monday the 25th July, and Messrs. John Bogart, sen'r. John Bogart, jun'r. Timothy Millard, Daniel T. Eck, and Andrew Clubine appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by John Bogart, sen'r. Chairman, Town Meeting.

By the unanimous vote of *East Gwillimbury*, on Tuesday the 26th July, and Messrs. Silas Fletcher, John Weddel, John Lewis, John Reid, Samuel Hughes, John Fletcher, and Lewis Powell appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by John Weddel, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of *Brook*, on Thursday the 28th July, and Messrs. Joel Wixson, Webster Stephenson, James Freeman, Archibald McPhaden, and Randal Wixson appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by Joel Wixson, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of *North Gwillimbury*, on Friday the 29th July, and Messrs. David Sprague, John L. Comer, Noah Gager, Isaac Bennett, and Amos Crittendon appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by David Sprague, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of *Tecumseth, West Gwillimbury, and Adjala*, County of Simcoe, on Saturday the 30th July, and Messrs. Robert Armstrong, Wm. Molton, and Nathaniel Gager all of West Gwillimbury; William Walker and William McCarty, Tecumseth; James Hampton of Adjala, and William Lawrie of Innisfil, appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by Robert Armstrong, J. P. Chairman.

By the unanimous vote of *King*, on Monday the 1st August, and Messrs. Jesse Lloyd, Jacob Hollingshead, William Haines, sen'r. William Kennedy, jun'r. Mark Learmont, William Haines, jun'r. and William Ghent, appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by William Haines, sen'r. Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of *Albion*, on Tuesday the 2nd August, and Messrs. John Jeffery, James Boulton, Rob't. Finch, Frederick Baker, and John Smith appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by James Goss, Chairman, Town Meeting.

By the unanimous vote of *Caledon*, on Wednesday the 3rd August, and Messrs. William Clark, Donald Macquarrie, Archibald Macnaughton, George Middagh, and Wm. Judge appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by Miles Bacon, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of *Chinguacousy*, on Thursday the 4th August, and Messrs. William Johnston, Martin Salisburry, John Wolfe, Joseph Lehar, and John Caesar, appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by Dr. Wm. Johnston, Town Clerk.

By the unanimous vote of *Vaughan*, on Friday the 5th August, and Messrs. Peter Frank, Michael Barchholder, John Clark, Archibald MacDonald, and George Thompson, appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by Peter Frank, Chairman Town Meeting.

By the unanimous vote of *Toronto*, on Saturday the 6th August, and Messrs. Charles King, Senr. Thomas McBride, William B. Reave, Abijah Lewis, Martin Switzer, Wesley Watson, and William Douglas, appointed a committee of co-operation. Attested by William Beck with Reeve, Town Clerk.

ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN WHITBY.

The two following additional resolutions were adopted by the township of Whitty, on Thursday the 31st of July, 1831; therefor concurred in by the townships of *Marikhan, Whitchurch, East Gwillimbury, Brook, Reach and Uzbridge, King, Albion, Caledon, Chinguacousy, North Gwillimbury, Vaughan and Toronto*; and clauses founded upon them were added to the petition to the House of Assembly adopted in these townships.

RESOLUTIONS.

I.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Meeting that the present mode of electing our representatives in Assembly, subjects us to great and unnecessary inconvenience, inasmuch that altho' our votes might be polled in our own Township, by one of our Township Officers annually elected at our January Town Meeting, we are required to travel to a place beyond York, a distance of from 25 to 40 miles, to give in our votes; and that too often at the busiest season of the year for farmers.— If it were impossible to make our suffrages in or near Whitty we would cheerfully come to York, but it is evident from the election laws of Lower Canada, Nova-Scotia, and New Brunswick, that a far better and more judicious law for the regulation of elec-

tions might be devised, better for us, better for the Government.

II.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that Jurors ought to be drawn from lists composed of the best qualified persons in the several Townships, or appointed in some other mode less liable to partiality and abuse, than an arbitrary selection of them by Sheriffs and Coroners, dependent for their appointment, income, and continuance in office, upon the will of the Executive Government.

Attested by
(Signed) **WILLIAM F. MOORE,**
Chairman, Town Meeting, Whitty.

EZRA ANNES,
Secretary.

A certificate transmitted for the information of the Lieutenant Governor, in compliance with the terms of a despatch from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, of the 19th of May last, addressed to His Excellency; and in accordance with the resolutions of the town meeting of this date.

The People of the Townships of
assembled, at
the Petition and Address to His Majesty and the Petition to the House of Assembly which had been previously agreed to by the Home District; they have also concurred in the several other resolutions and proceedings of the Townships of York and Whitty, certified copies of which are hereto annexed.

Attested by

District, in Township Meeting
1831, have adopted
day of
in the
this
the Petition and Address to His Majesty and the Petition to the House of Assembly which had been previously agreed to by the Home District; they have also concurred in the several other resolutions and proceedings of the Townships of York and Whitty, certified copies of which are hereto annexed.

Chairman.
Secretary.